GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:133
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2017
Water-related Diseases
Kaswan Shri Rahul

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of population drawing drinking water from potentially unsafe private wells;
(b) the percentage of population in the country who are suffering from water-borne diseases;
(c) the percentage increase in the total population that has access to safe drinking water during the last two plan periods and in recent years, State/UT-wise; and
(d) the steps taken by the Government to solve the problem of unsafe drinking water?

Answer

MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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Statement referred to in the reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.133 due for reply on 09.03.2017

(a) & (b) There are 9.25 lakh private drinking water sources which interalia include both open well and tube well) in rural India as reported by the States into the online Integrated Management Information System of the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation. Since bacteriological contamination is highly dynamic in nature, the data on percentage of private unsafe wells is not maintained at the Central level by the Ministry. As reported by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, during the period 2014 to 2016, due to water borne diseases like Cholera, Enteric fever (Typhoid), Acute Diarrhoeal diseases and Viral Hepatitis, 3,95,56,856 persons have been affected and cases reported in the country.
(c) This Ministry has started monitoring the progress of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) through the Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) since its launching on 01/04/2009. As such, the Ministry has State-wise data available since 1/4/2009 only. Further, the Ministry categorises the habitations for the coverage as under: -
(i) Fully Covered Habitation − At least 40 litres per capita per day (LPCD) of safe water available.
(ii) Partially Covered Habitation − Having coverage of less than 40 LPCD of safe water available.
(iii) Quality Affected Habitation − Where at least one of the source of water is chemically contaminated.
The population residing in these categories of habitations in various States as on 1/4/2009 (the earliest data available with the Ministry), 31/3/2012 (closing date for the 11th Five Year Plan period) and 01/03/2017 (first day of the concluding month of the 12th Plan Period) has been given at Annexures I, II, and III respectively. The rural population having access to safe drinking water has increased from 87.18% as on 1/4/2009 to 94.57% as on 1/3/2017.
(d) Government of India has suggested both short term and long term measures to States for providing safe drinking water. Short term measures include provision of community water purification system to an existing source (especially in arsenic or fluoride affected habitations) so that 8-10 litres per person per day of safe water is made available immediately for drinking and cooking purposes. Long term measures include laying of piped water supply schemes preferably from safe and sustainable surface water bodies. Rural drinking water supply is a State subject. However, Government of India assists the States technically and financially in providing safe drinking water through the centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). Under NRDWP, upto 67% of funds provided to States can be utilized for coverage and tackling water quality problems so that provision of safe drinking water is ensured.
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